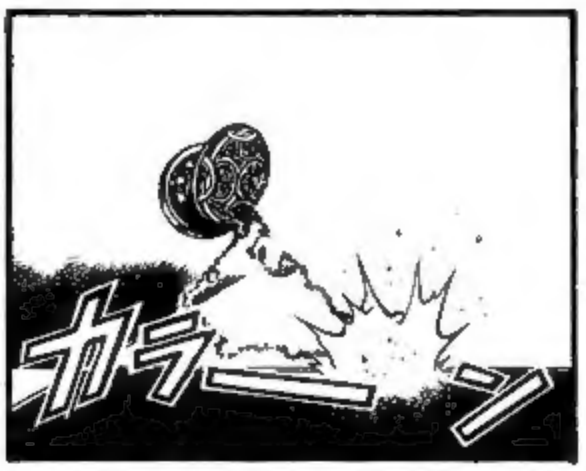
F... FORGIVE ME... PLEASE ...!
LADY FRANCIIIINE ...!


カラーン

L-LADY FRAN-CIIIINE ...

Act 37
6:00

YES... THOUGH WE KNOW IT TO BE A FAKE...
WHAT... SHALL WE DO... PANTA-LONE?
WE ARE... UNABLE TO MOVE ...
HAS COMMANDED US TO KNEEL, AND WE ARE COMPELLED TO OBEY...
THIS MARIONETTE ... SO LIKE LADY FRANCINE ...

2

YES, WE MAY YET BE ABLE TO SAVE HIM.
LET'S GET NARUMI TO THE MEDICAL CAPSULE!

...MA-
DAME
...
FOUGHT WITH ALL HER MIGHT, TO THE VERY END...
...BUT, LUCILLE ...
MING-XIA, WE MUST GO WITH THEM!
THEY ARE SURE TO NEED OUR HELP.

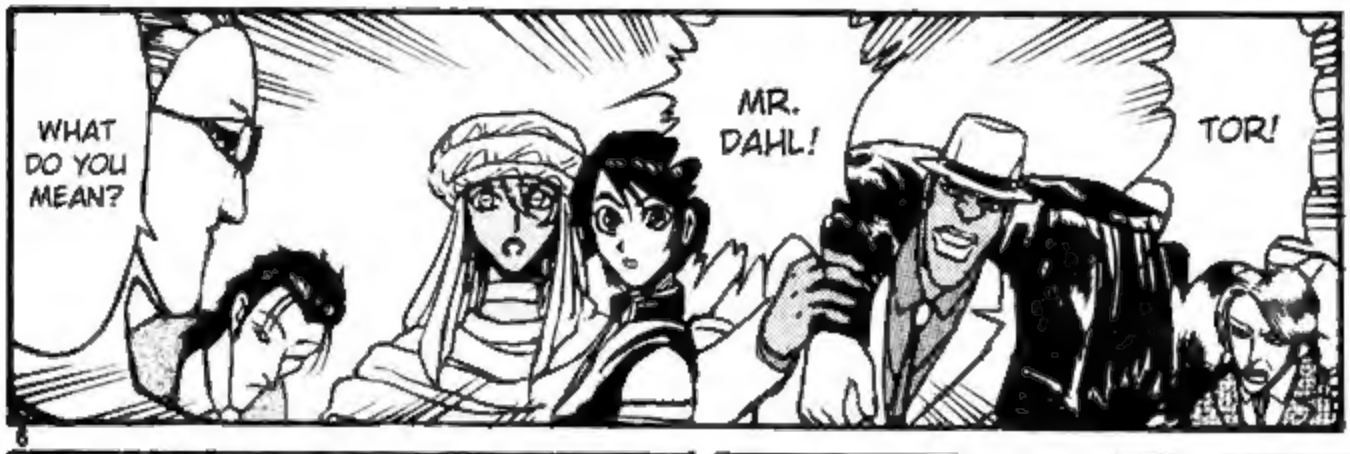
3

THE SHIRO-GANE ARE SURE TO ACT SOON ...
WE... MUST DO SOME-THING ...
MING-XIA... LET'S GO.
AH ...
AH ...! LU ...
LU-CILLE ...

AND WE KNOW ...
WHAT THEIR TARGET WILL BE...
WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING?!
4
WE HAVE NO FORCES TO SPARE ON HELPING A MAN WHO IS ALREADY HALF DEAD!
MOUNTING AN ATTACK ON THE DOLL FRANCINE SHOULD BE OUR ONLY PRIORITY RIGHT NOW!

BUT... I GET THE FEELIN' I'VE SEEN THAT HALF-DEAD GUY SOME-WHERE ...
YOU SURE DON'T TAKE ANY PRISONERS, BUDDY...
WELL, NOTHIN' TO DO WITH ME.
MING-XIA!
YOU LISTEN HERE ...!
WHAT WAS THAT, YOU CREEP ?!
くぎゃ
5
GIVE IT UP.
BUT ...!
IT'S UNFOR-TUNATE, BUT WHAT GEORGE SAYS IS TRUE, FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF A SHIRO-GANE.
WHAT IF WE FOCUS ON TWO PRIORITIES THIS TIME?
BUT ...

PLEASE... CARRY NARUMI TO THE TREATMENT TABLE.


WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
MR. DAHL!
TOR!

I CANNOT. HOWEVER ...
CAN YOU GUAR-ANTEE THAT?

FIRST OF ALL, NARUMI IS A CRUCIAL PART OF OUR FORCES. IF WE CAN SAVE HIM, HIS MARTIAL ARTS WILL LIKELY BE EFFECTIVE AGAINST THE DOLL FRANCINE.

HEY, GEORGE! TIME'S PASSING WHILE YOU STAND HERE JAWING!
.....
WHERE IS THE HARM IN LEAVING NARUMI IN THE CARE OF SOMEONE WITH NOTHING ELSE TO CONTRIBUTE?
SECOND OF ALL, I AM CURRENTLY WITHOUT A MARIONETTE, AND IN NO CONDITION TO FIGHT.
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU, TOR.
LET'S GO, YOU TWO.
THOUGH I PERSONALLY THINK IT'S POINTLESS.
DO AS YOU LIKE, IF YOU'RE SO DETERMINED.
7
NOT MUCH LIKE YOU, ALWAYS SO CALM AND COMPOSED.
...KEH. YOU WERE DRENCHED IN SWEAT AS YOU GAVE THAT EXCUSE.
ひょい
RIGHT... YOU TAKE CARE OF DESTROYING THE DOLL FRANCINE.

THE AQUA VITAE IN OUR VEINS BIDS US TO DESTROY THE AUTOMATA ...
BUT I HEAR ANOTHER VOICE CALLING OUT TO ME, MUCH LOUDER THAN THAT.
HMPH... WELL, YES, I SUPPOSE THAT'S TRUE, DAHL.
HUH ...?
YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY, DON'T YOU, DAHL?
IT TELLS ME THAT WE MUST NOT LET THIS MAN DIE.

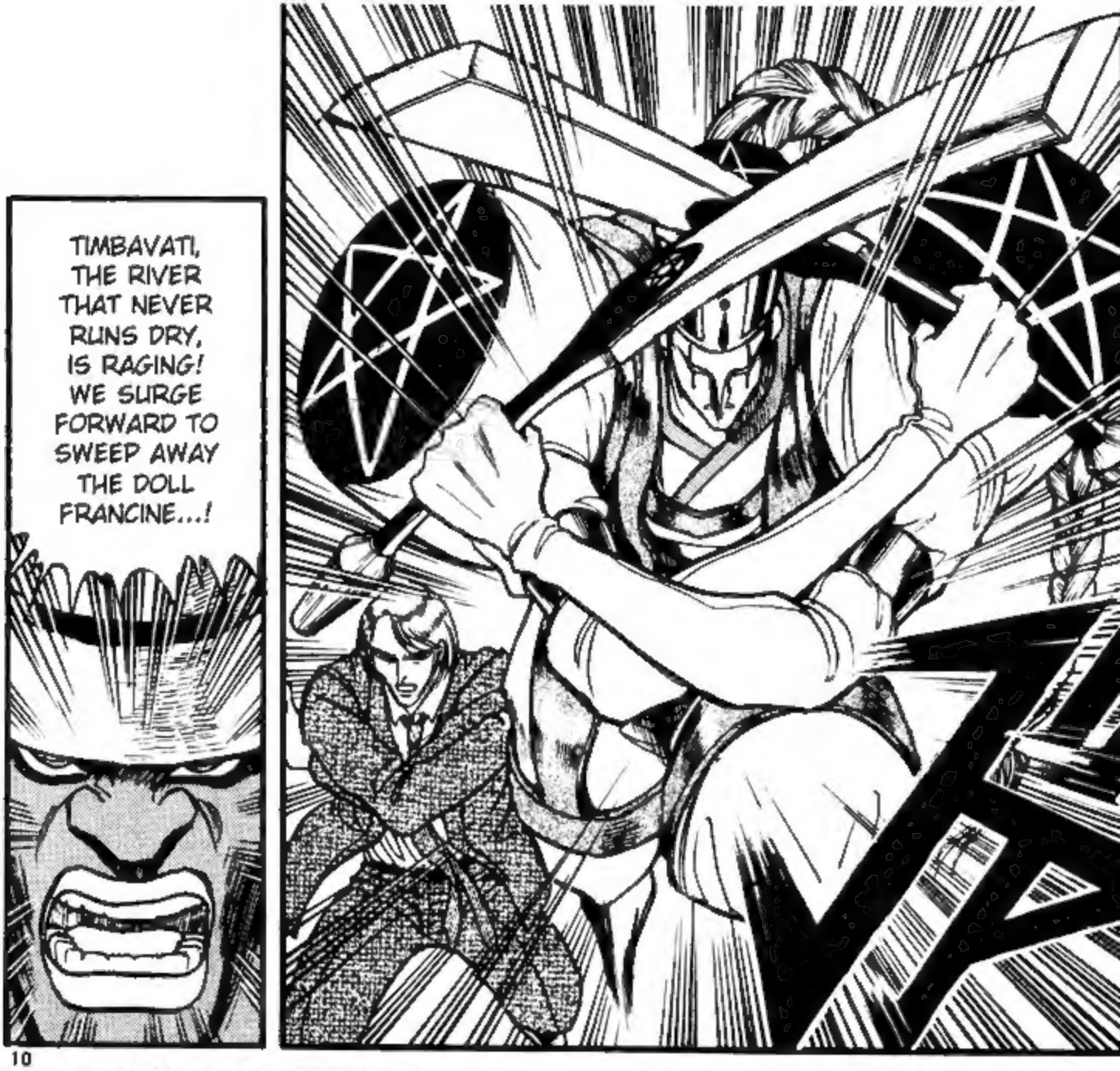
HMPH ...
.....

THE SHIRO-GANE ARE COMING!

AND THE BOLA MISTERI-OSA!
SEE HOW YOU FARE AGAINST GEORGE LAROCHE ...

THIS IS THE FINAL HOUR FOR THE DOLL FRANCINE, RINGMASTER OF LE CIRQUE DE MINUIT!

IT'S TIME TO ELIMINATE THE SOURCE OF ZONAPHA SYNDROME!
PENTAGONA KNOCKER ...


TIMBAVATI, THE RIVER THAT NEVER RUNS DRY, IS RAGING! WE SURGE FORWARD TO SWEEP AWAY THE DOLL FRANCINE...!

MAMBA!

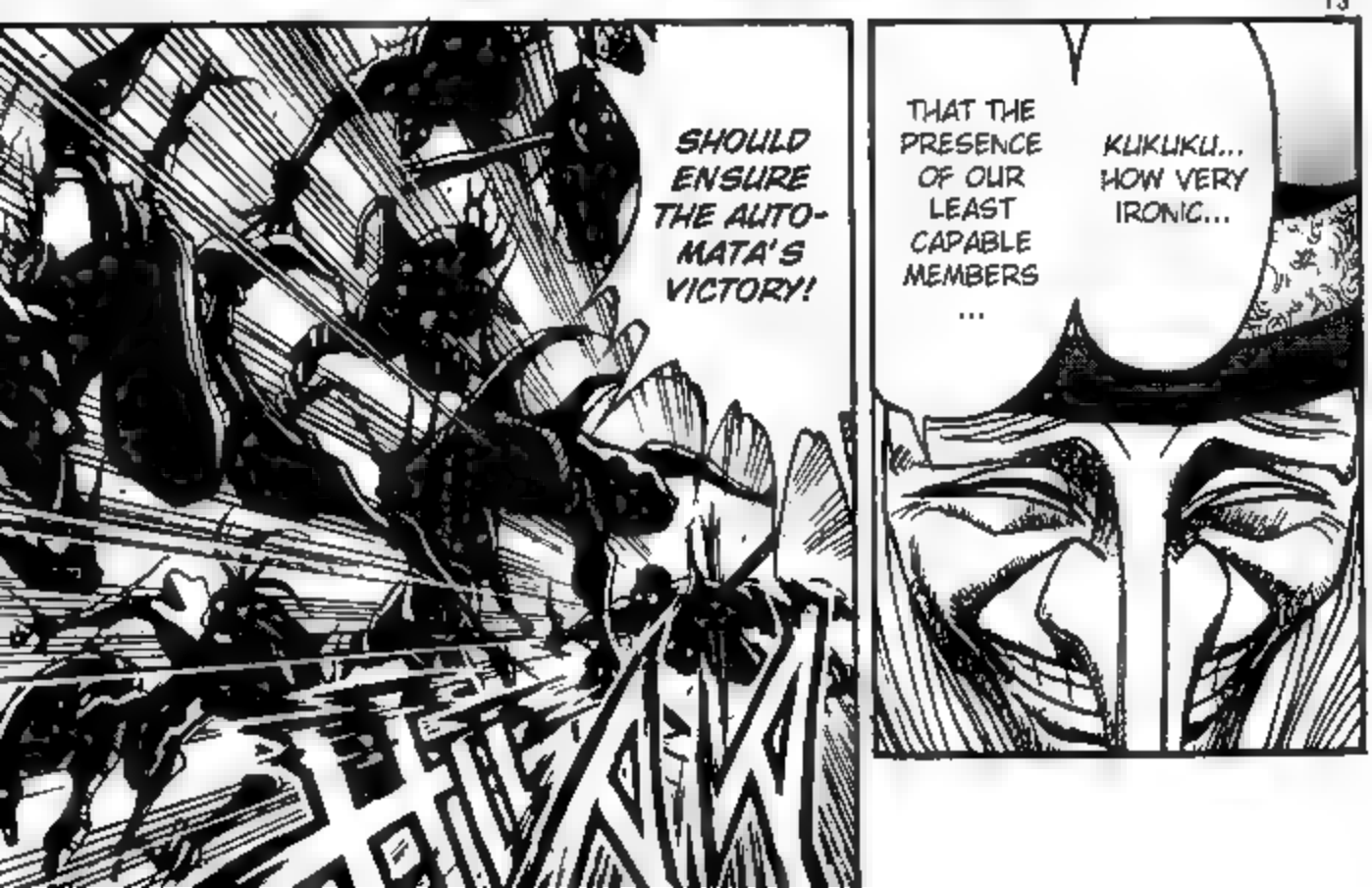
NO NEED TO WORRY.
NRR... WE STILL CANNOT MOVE ...
LADY FRANCINE IS... IN DANGER...! WHAT CAN WE DO?!
ギリイイイイイイ
SFX: GRINDING

COULD THEY BE A DIFFERENT TYPE OF DOLL ...?!
THEY SHOU-LDN'T BE ABLE TO MOVE.
THE MARIONETTE ANGELINA GAVE THE AUTOMATA AN ORDER ...
WHAT ON EARTH?

YES, ARLEC-CHINO.
A LOWER GRADE, PANTA-LONE?
YES. THOSE WHO ARE OF A LOWER GRADE...
...THERE ARE TROUPE MEMBERS WHO ARE ABLE TO MOVE?

THESE, HOWEVER, ARE SIMPLE MASS-PRODUCTION MODELS BUILT IN THE AUTOMATA WORKSHOP.
AND IN CONSEQUENCE, OUR LOYALTY TO LADY FRANCINE IS WITHOUT EQUAL.
THE NEAREST TO HUMAN, HIGH-POWERED AND HIGH-FUNCTIONING IN EVERY RESPECT.
WE FOUR, LES QUATRE PIONNIERS, WERE CONSTRUCTED BY LADY FRANCINE HERSELF. WE ARE, AS IT WERE, THE HIGHER GRADE OF AUTOMATA...
IT IS THE INFERIOR SPECIMENS WHO ARE BLOCKING OUR WAY, THEN...
TO THE DOLL FRAN-CINE.
I SEE. SO BY NATURE, THEY ARE LESS LOYAL ...



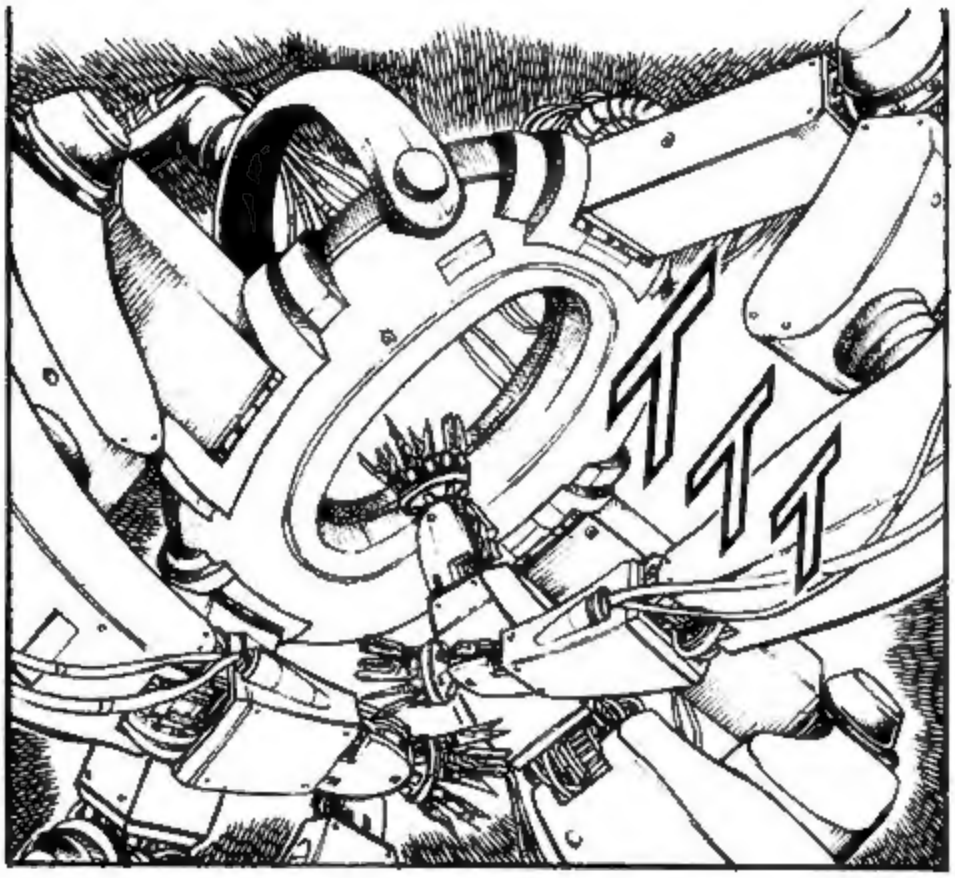

SHOULD ENSURE THE AUTO-MATA'S VICTORY!
THAT THE PRESENCE OF OUR LEAST CAPABLE MEMBERS ...
KUKUKU... HOW VERY IRONIC...

AND MAKE OUR WAY TO THE DOLL FRAN-CINE!
ALL WE CAN DO IS FIGHT IT OUT, THEN!

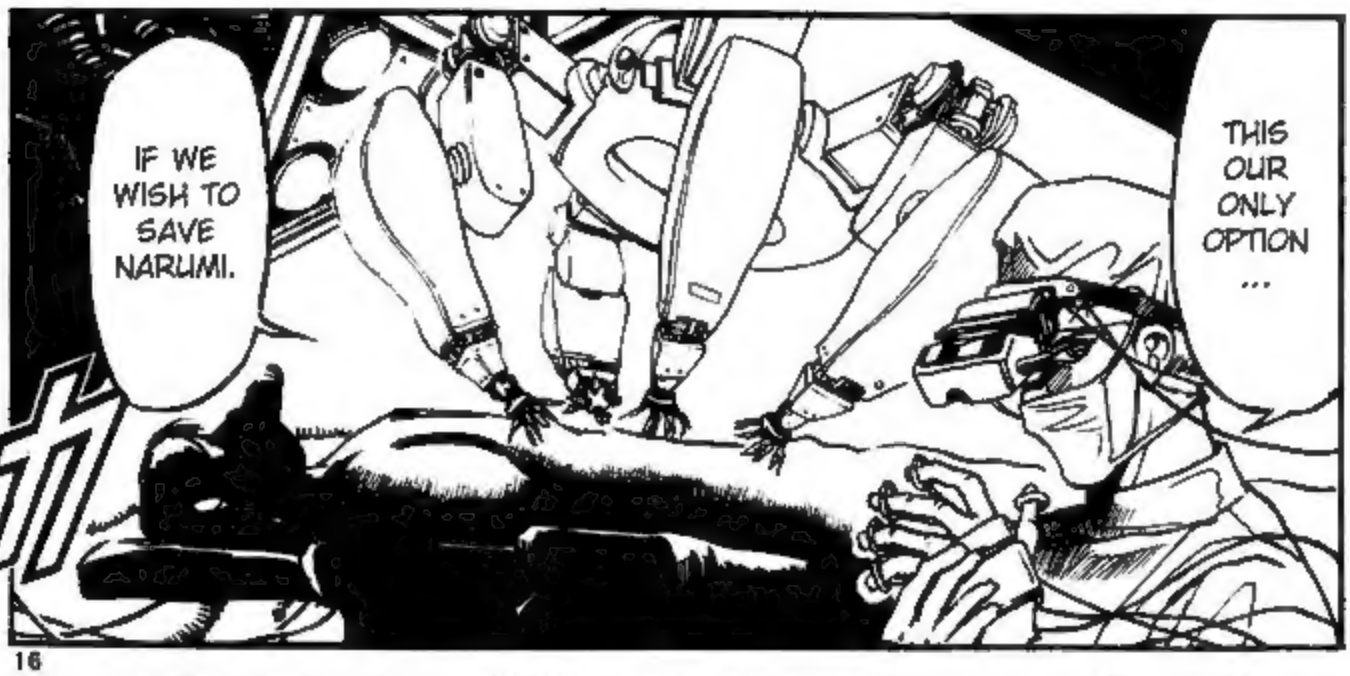
OF COURSE NOT... WE SHALL NOT DO AS HE DID!
BUT TAKE CARE NOT TO IMITATE DOTTORE'S EXAMPLE ...
WE MUST REGAIN OUR MOVEMENT AS SOON AS POS-SIBLE!
NOT IF WE CAN HELP IT!!

ATTACK THEM THERE!
IN ORDER TO HOLD THEIR FORCES DOWN AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE ...
WE NEED TIME... IF WE CAN ONLY BUY ENOUGH TIME...!
BODY TEMPER-ATURE HAS DROPPED TO 32°C.
PUPILS ARE DILATED!
RESPI-RATORY ARREST ...
CARDIAC ARREST ...

UM, I HATE TO JUST STAND AROUND DOING NOTHING...
RIGHT ...
WE WILL THEN COMMENCE CARDIAC MASSAGE AND ARTI-FICIAL RES-PIRATION.
DEFIB-RILLATION HAS NO EFFECT.
FATIMA, ADMINISTER SODIUM BICARBO-NATE AND LIDOCAINE.



HUH?
MING-XIA, IF YOU WOULD... ASSIST ME WITH THE SURGERY ...


IF WE WISH TO SAVE NARUMI.
THIS OUR ONLY OPTION ...

LOOKS LIKE IT'S UP TO YOU AND ME, SKINNY BOY.

TCH, SO THEY'RE COMING AFTER US HERE...

FA-TIMA, TELL ME WHAT TO DO.
...GOT IT. I'M A LITTLE DIZZY HERE, BUT I'LL DO IT!
RI-GHT!

カリヨン
THIS IS JUST TOO MUCH... YOU'RE EXPECTIN' ME TO STEP IN, TOO?
YOU'RE STILL IN THE GAME, SLEIPNIR!
EVEN WITH JUST ONE ARM ...

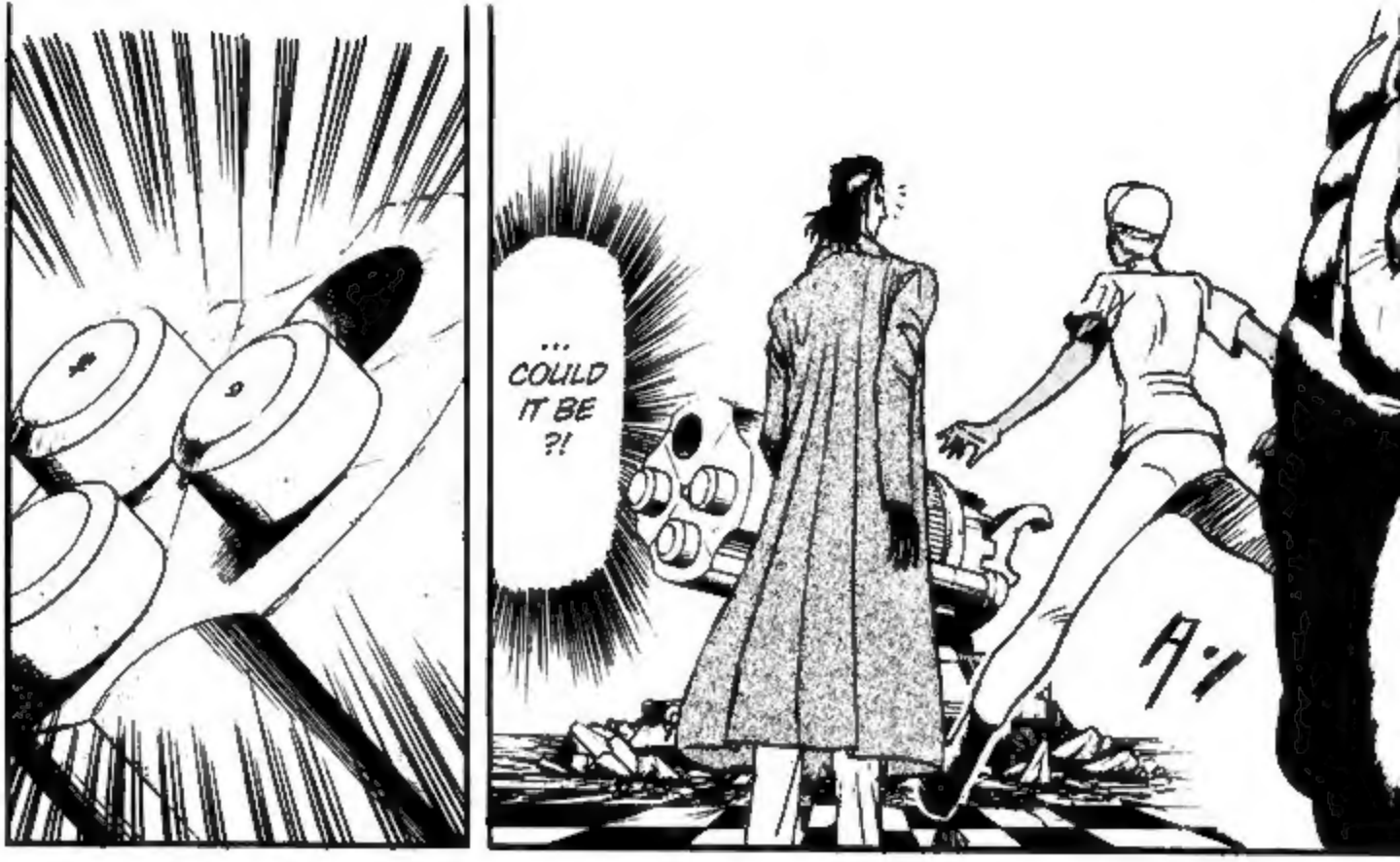
MR. DAHL WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PRO-TECT US ALONE!

THIS ISN'T GOOD.

17

YEAH, WELL, I AM A PUPPETEER. LONG STORY SHORT, I CAME TO DELIVER A PUPPET AND THINGS TOOK A TURN FOR THE WEIRD. SO NOW HERE I AM.

YOU'RE NOT EVEN A SHIROGANE, ARE YOU?
WHY ARE YOU HERE, ANYWAY, JAPANESE?
BUT MY MARIO-NETTE, SPINET-TINA, WAS DES-TROYED ...

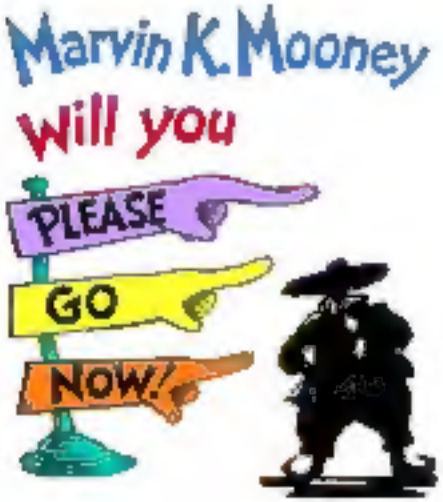

... COULD IT BE ?!

HEY, HOLD ON! WHERE'RE WE GOIN' ?!
PLEASE COME WITH ME, THEN.

Wow, you're a looker
UH... YEAH.
YOU ARE A PUPPE-TEER?!

OVER IN THAT VEHICLE!
THERE MAY BE WEAPONS FOR THE TWO OF US...

translation by funnuraba.tumblr.com

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Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves.